

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,978,720 B2
APPLICATION NO. : 10/695558
DATED : December 27, 2005
INVENTOR(S) : Kent N. Johnson

Page 1 of 12

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

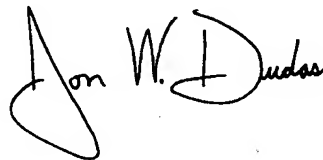
Title page should be deleted and substitute therefore the attached title page.

Drawings:

Delete drawings Figs. containing Figs 1-14 and substitute therefore drawings consisting of Figs.1-14 as shown on the attached pages

Signed and Sealed this

Twenty-fourth Day of October, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon W. Dudas". The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial "J" and a cursive "Dudas".

JON W. DUDAS
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office

(12) **United States Patent**
Johnson

(10) Patent No.: **US 6,978,720 B2**
(45) Date of Patent: **Dec. 27, 2005**

(54) **GONDOLA RAILCAR CONSTRUCTION**

(76) Inventor: **Kent N. Johnson, 178 Seven Forks Rd., Martin, GA (US) 30557**

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **10/695,558**

(22) Filed: **Oct. 28, 2003**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(51) Int. Cl.⁷ **B61D 3/00**

(52) U.S. Cl. **105/380; 105/406.1; 105/411; 105/419**

(58) Field of Search **105/380, 381, 105/382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 787, 389, 390, 105/392, 406.1, 411, 419; 52/436.2, 736.1, 52/737.2, 726.3, 726.1, 726.9**

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Primary Examiner—Mark T. Lo

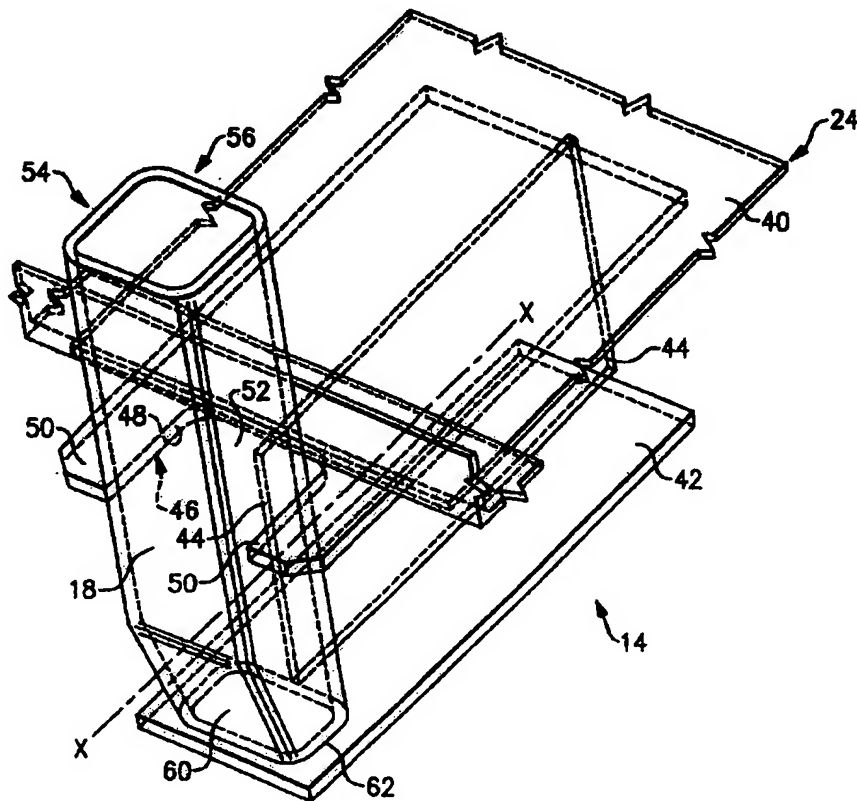
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Hodgson Russ LLP

(57)

ABSTRACT

A gondola railcar having a plurality of side posts connected to the underframe for a high strength construction. The underframe includes a plurality of cross-bearing members having an upper flange, a lower flange and at least one vertical web connecting the two flanges. The upper flange has an opening disposed therein that receives the side post such that the side post abuts with the upper flange inside the opening. The side post also abuts with an end of the vertical web, and an end portion of the side post abuts with the lower flange of the cross-bearing member.

18 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets



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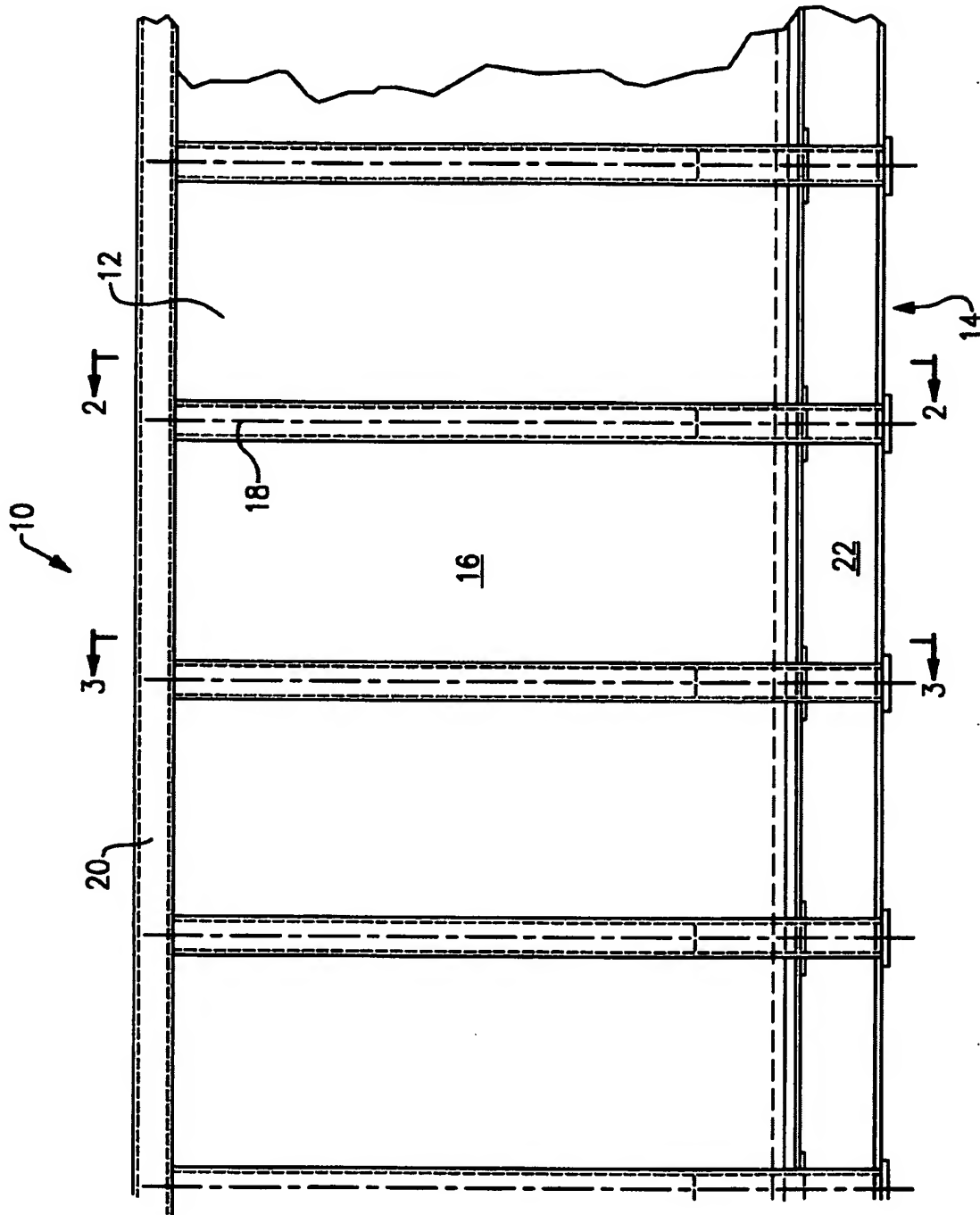


FIG. 1

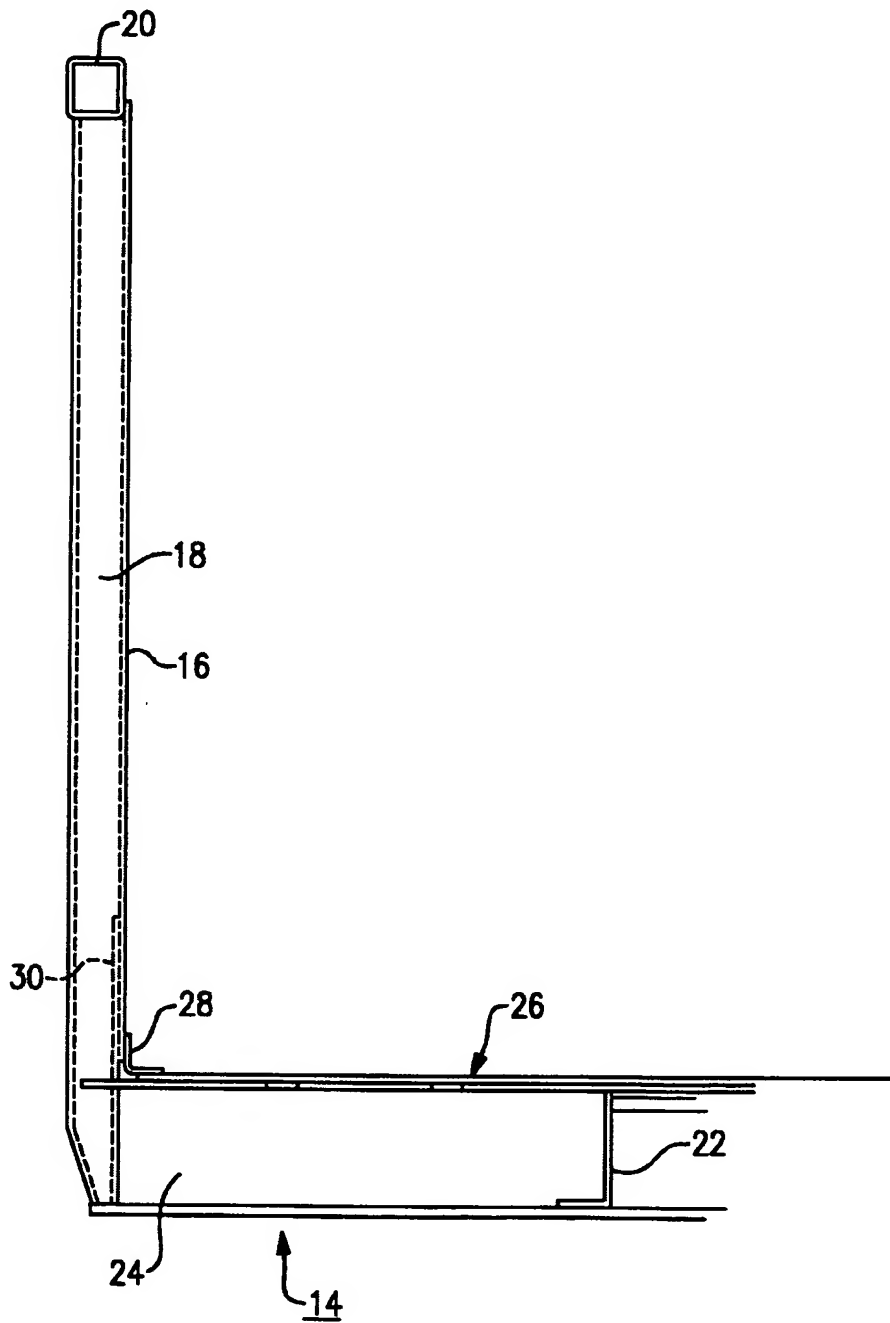


FIG. 2

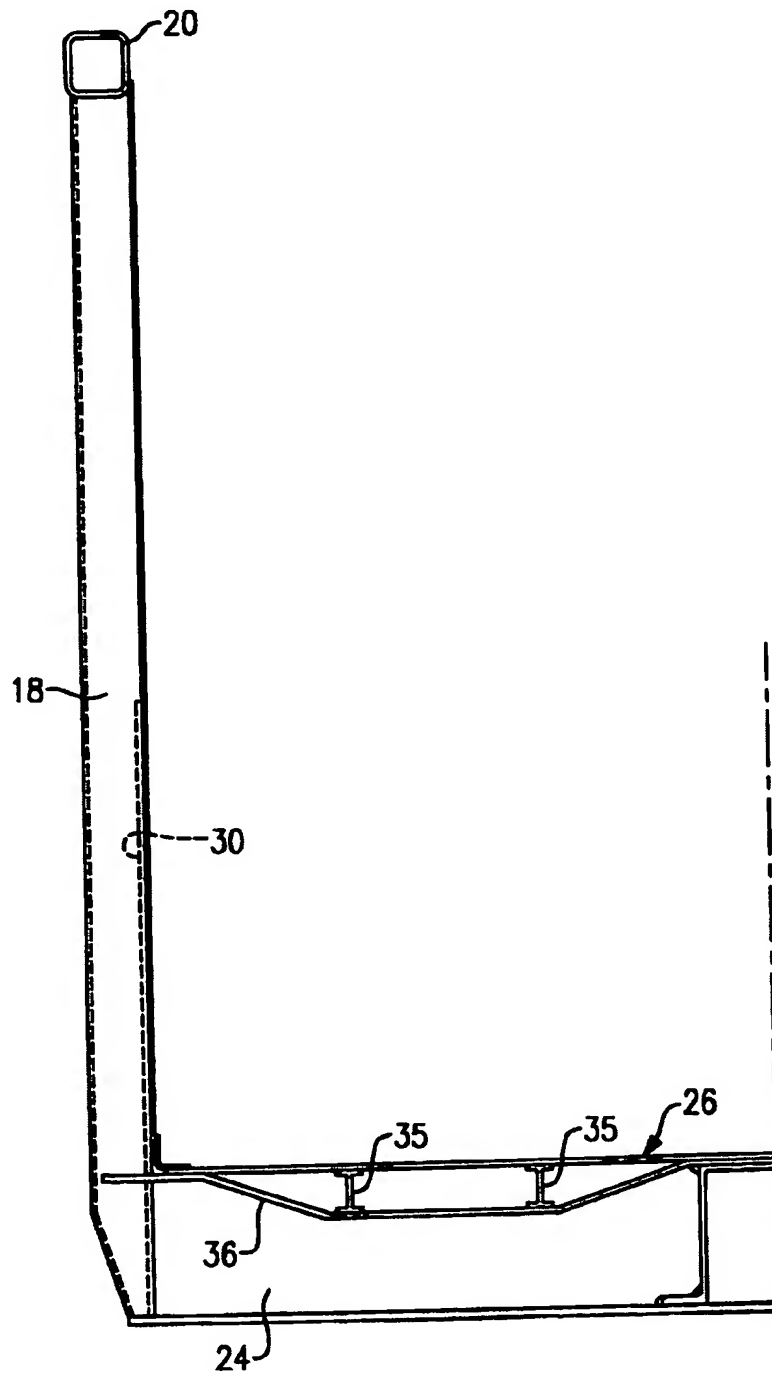


FIG. 3

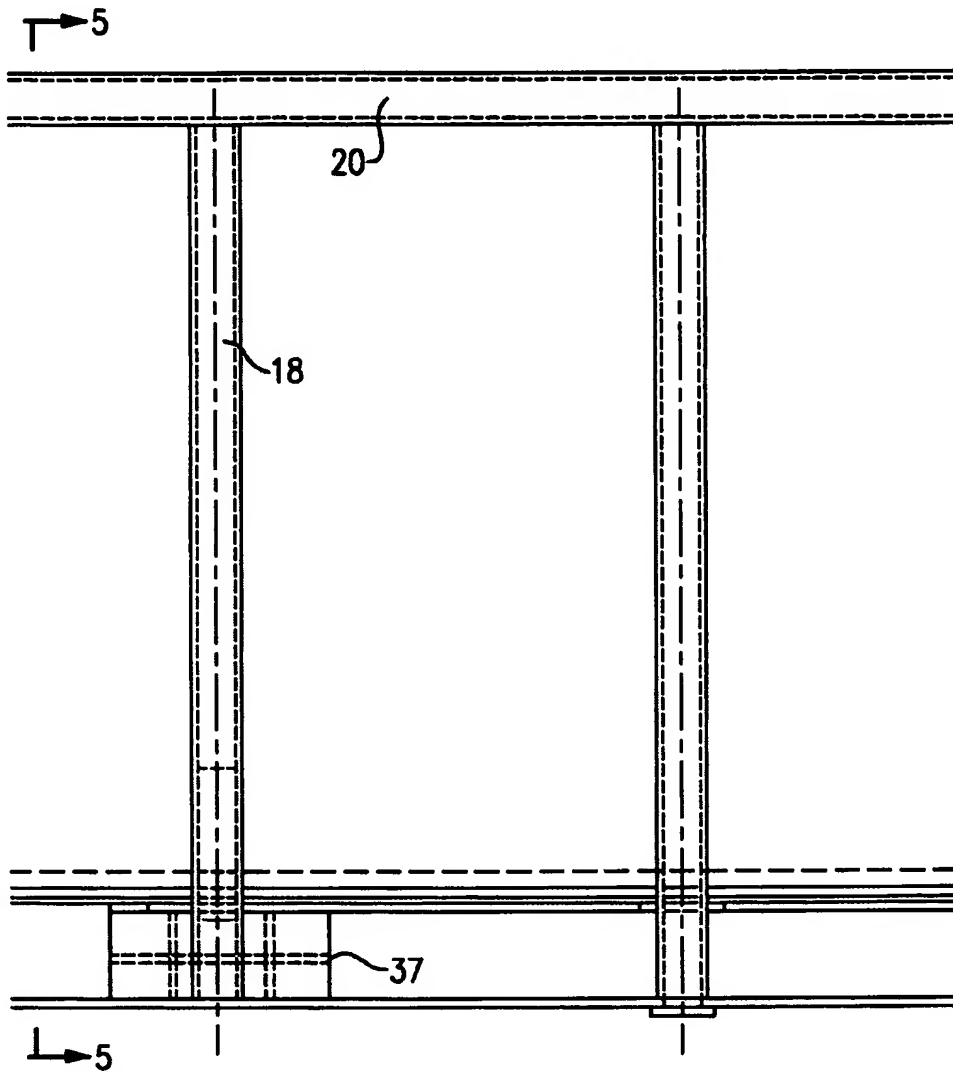


FIG. 4

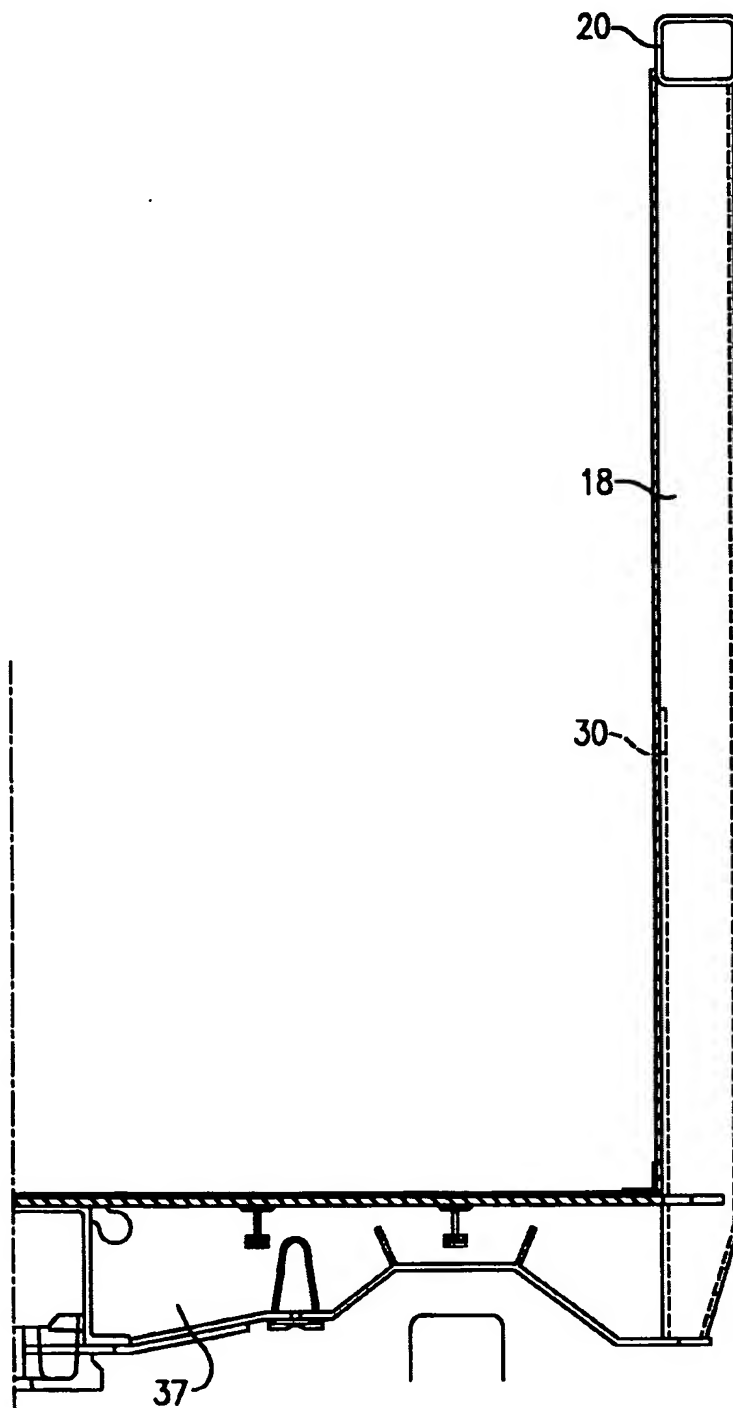


FIG. 5

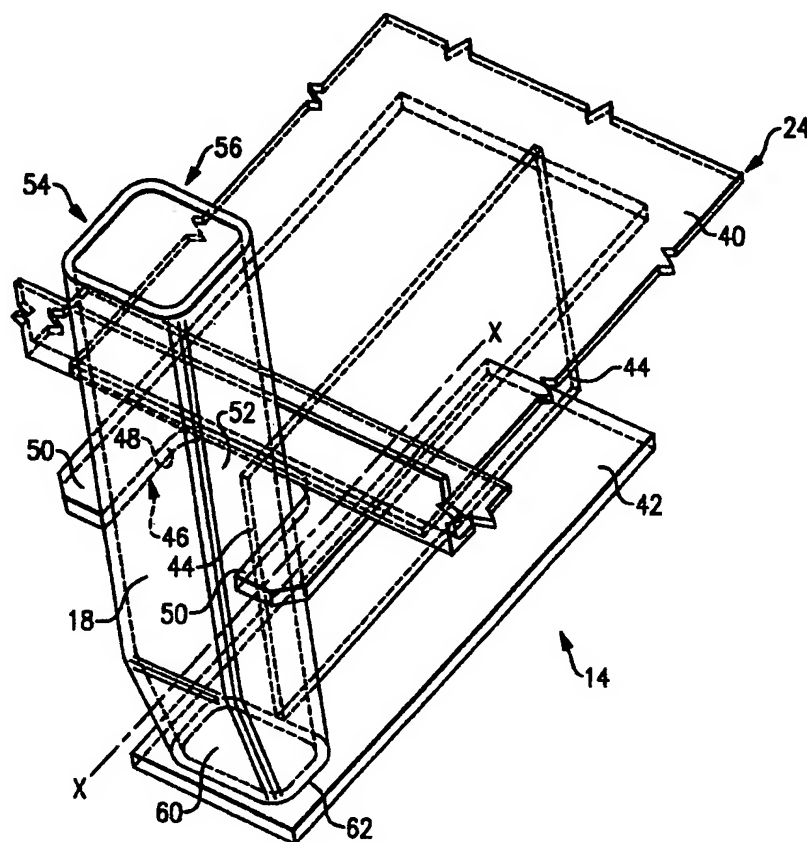


FIG. 6

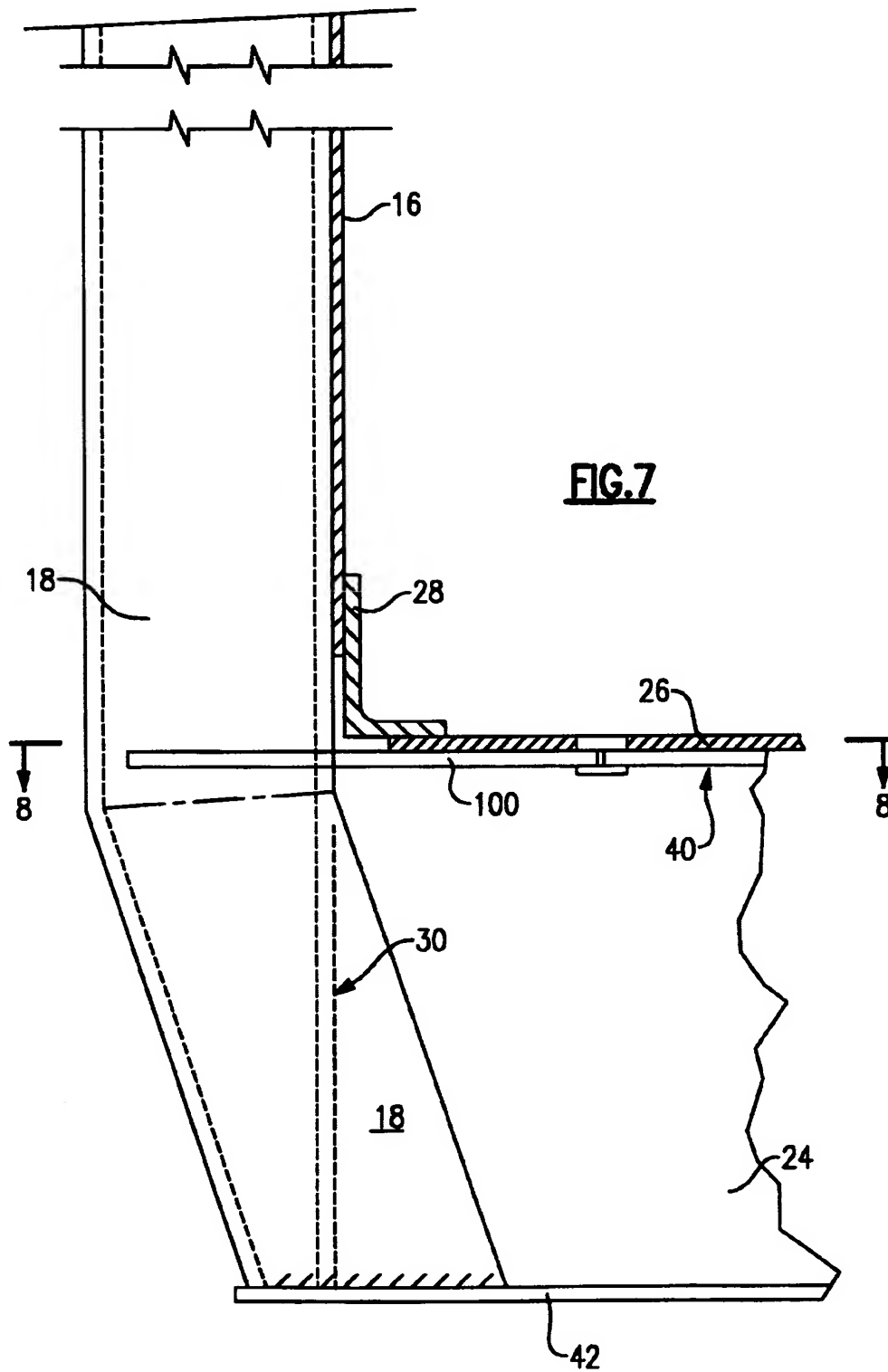
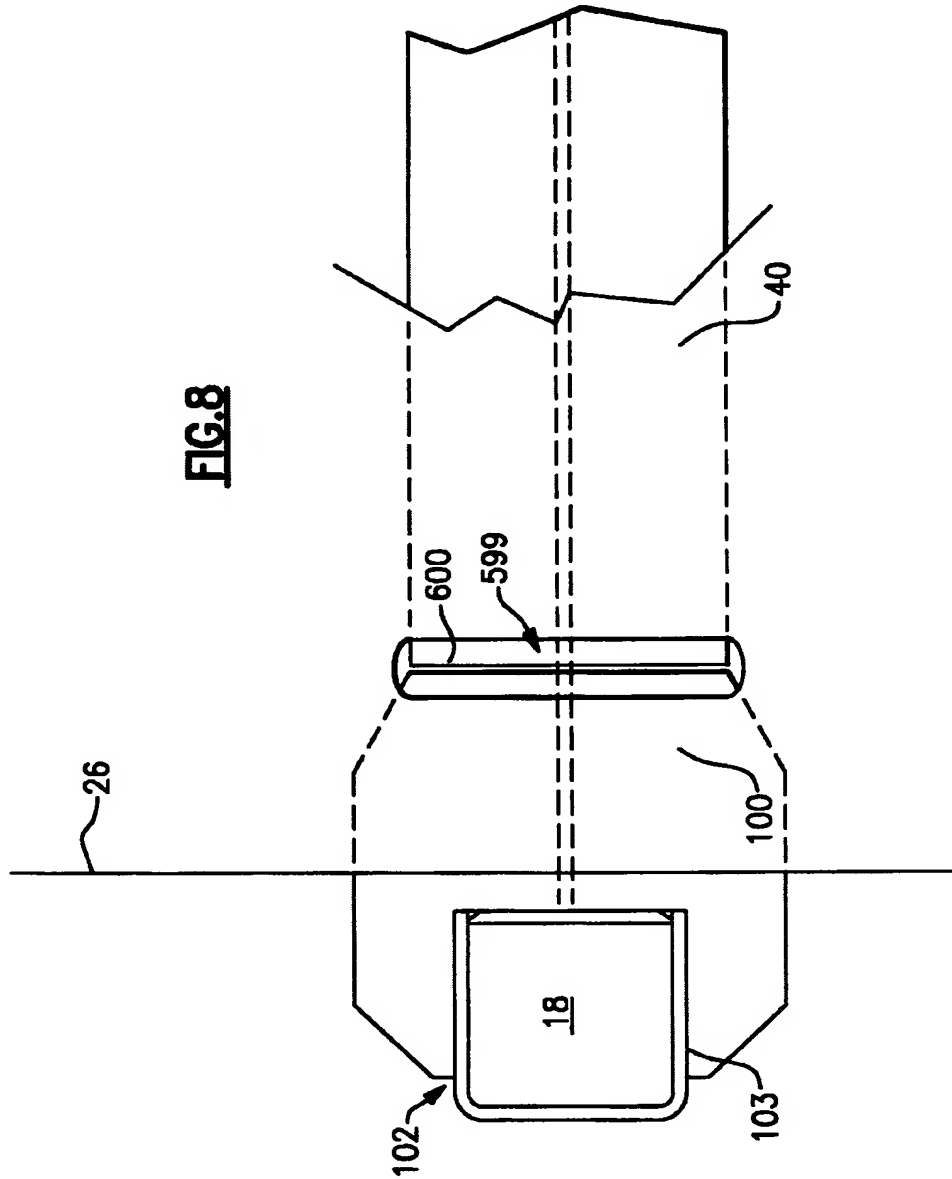


FIG. 8



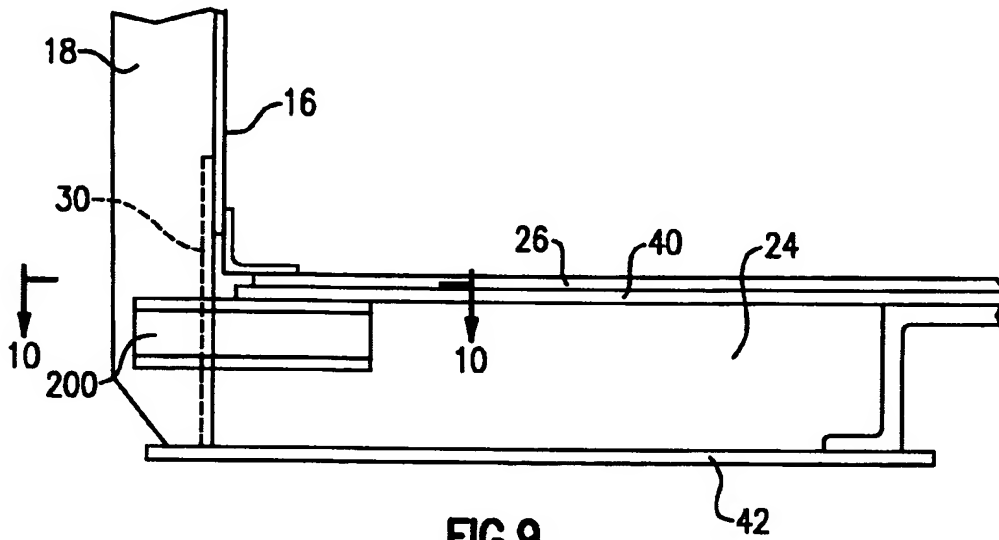


FIG. 9

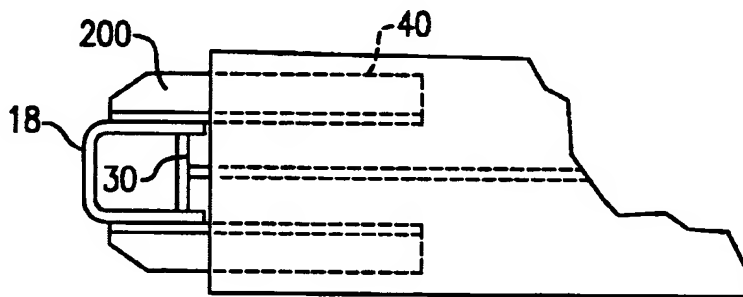


FIG. 10

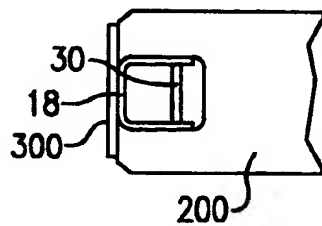


FIG. 11

